

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1549

October 7, 2019

SUMMARY OF BILL: Clarifies, for purposes of the Tennessee Human Rights Act, that “race” includes ancestry, ethnic group identification, ethnic background, and the physical or cultural characteristics associated with a certain race, including, but not limited to, hair texture or protective hairstyles. Defines “protective hairstyles”, as including, but not limited to, braids, locks, and twists.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-21-101(a)(3), discrimination because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, age or national origin in connection with employment and public accommodations, and because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, or national origin in connection with housing is prohibited.
- Passage of the proposed legislation would clarify that discrimination because of physical or cultural characteristics associated with a certain race, including, but not limited to hair texture or protective hairstyles is prohibited.
- Based on information provided by the Tennessee Human Rights Commission (THRC), any increase in the number of complaints filed as a result of the proposed legislation can be handled within existing resources; therefore, any fiscal impact to the THRC is estimated to be not significant.
- Any fiscal impact to state or local government is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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